

## **President's Report**

**May 20, 2021**

### ***AGM***

*"In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity"*

This is our second year where we cannot meet face to face and enjoy a meal and fellowship. This year we are having our AGM by Zoom. Your Executive committee has learned more computer skills, how to take turns talking and become creative in doing what we can for you, our members.

As you are aware, we have been sending out more Newsletters to keep you informed of issues pertinent to retirees. We have been putting more ( we hope) interesting things in it along with contests for cooks and photographers. We hope the calendars, little suggestions and interviews have been useful.

Wellness set up a virtual Wine and Cheese at Christmas which was fun and some of us got to sing along without fear of the raised eyebrow.

The provincial body is going through many changes with a new website and many committees. Your Branch committee chairs have been attending the provincial zoom meetings. NBSRT have surveyed each of you and your Branch executive also completed the Strategic Plan Questionnaire. Our biggest concern is that NBSRT be driven by the Branches and their concerns.

Besides the Newsletter, Directors, the Executive Committee, Cards, Scholarship, Wellness , Website and Membership Committees have been active.

I would like to thank all members of the NBSRT SJ Executive Committee and the Executive Officers for all their hard work and dedication working for you. Thanks to Barry Harbinson, Brian Greig, Bob Bonner, Pat Loughery, Pat Murray, Kathy Dalling, Pat Roy, Mary Ann Patterson, Netta Chase, Nancy Steele, Rose Theriault, Marg Urquhart, Pat Duguay, Marijke Blok, Kathy Wilson, Ellen Palmer, Melody Hamm, Dianne Stackhouse. They have made these past four years as president a pleasure.

Hopefully, I will see some of you at our "virtual "AGM and many of you when we are able to provide you with a safe celebration of the end of Covid with an opportunity to gather eat talk and celebrate.

Respectfully Submitted  
Judy Braman

## **1st Vice-President's Annual Report 2020-2021**

I attended as many monthly zoom meetings as I could, absent only for medical reasons.

In addition, I served on the Ad Hoc Membership Recruitment Committee and the Constitution Committee as well as performed duties as assigned by the President and/or the Executive Committee.

There is no pension report as Vestcor sent out a detailed newsletter in the fall outlining how the plan is doing. On the positive side, our monthly pensions were not reduced due to the Covid crisis but increased \$30.00. While not a significant increase it is better than a decrease.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Greig  
2019-2021 NBSRTSJ 1st Vice-President

### **Cards Report – May 13, 2021**

Since May of last year (2020) the following cards have been sent:

Get Well – 8  
Thinking of You – 3  
Sympathy – 32  
Birthday - 1

Among the sympathy cards were those sent to the families of deceased teachers. Some of these were members; others were not.

John Bone	Dawn Glover
Sally Slemin	Norman Nickerson
Helen Stockford	Elizabeth (Betty) Betts
Jean Cameron	Elizabeth (Liz) Grimmer
Leslie Bruce	Kenneth Gould
Geoff Vail	Karen Keating
Anne Marie Breen	William (Bill) Joyce
Joe Breen	Helen (Petryshen) Crandall
Norma MacKellar (Supply)	Robert Fitzgerald
Russell Haynes	

The single birthday card was sent to Joan Wall, who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marijke Blok

NBSRT SAINT JOHN

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

MAY 2021

Most of the social activities of the NBSRT- SAINT JOHN branch were somewhat subdued during this past year due to the restrictions of COVID-19.

The executive met regularly via Zoom throughout the year to keep abreast of provincial activities and to conduct the business necessary to keep our branch current.

I attended the Zoom Annual General Meeting of the Provincial group in May of 2020, and this year, once again the Provincial AGM will be held via Zoom. The newly elected President and Executive developed a strategic plan proposal and distributed it to the membership through email for individual feedback, Hopefully everyone had an opportunity to study the suggestions and respond. Our local executive also prepared an official response on behalf of our branch.

The Directors of this branch, with input from executive members, prepared a letter of support and encouragement for local teachers, acknowledging that their efforts to provide quality instruction during this difficult time was appreciated. This letter was sent to every school in the district and was also published as the feature letter to the editor in the Telegraph Journal.

Local elections will be held for our branch this spring. If you are interested there are many openings and it is a great opportunity to get involved in issues of importance to retired teachers.

This year completes my term as a Branch Director.

Patricia Murray

**Membership Report**  
**NBSRT SJ AGM**  
**May 20, 2020**

In October 2020 it was decided to set up an AD HOC Membership Committee to encourage retired teachers to join NBSRT.

The goals of the committee are :

to encourage retired teachers from past years, through personal contact to join.

to find new ways to welcome and encourage new retirees to join.

to develop a rapport with active teachers so there are more aware of NBSRT.

So far the committee has been contacting retired teachers from 2018, 2019 and 2020 and have encouraged 7 new members. The personal contact will continue and we will pursue other years.

Our committee has attended several Provincial membership meetings and shared our ideas and progress. The provincial committee is presently offering prizes for new members and to those who encourage them.

The committee is presently distributing pens and cards to all Saint John schools teachers showing our support for their dedication during the pandemic.

A letter written by our Directors was sent to all Anglophone South Schools and printed in the newspaper. This was well received by all teachers and support staff and the public.

Now, that initial contact is being made to individual schools, we will reach out to see how we can help in the celebration at year end to staff retiring.

Our committee will be planning ways to encourage 2021 retirees to join and will look at ways to celebrate both their retirement and the teachers from 2020 who have both been affected by the pandemic.

We welcome ideas and suggestion to encourage “swelling” our numbers.

The Executive Committee will be planning a celebration for ALL our members as soon as it is safe to do so.

Thanks to : Marijke Blok, Kathy Dalling, Brian Greig, Barry Harbinson, Ellen Palmer, Rena MacGregor, Mary Ann Patterson, Marg Urquhart who have been a tremendous help in moving this Committee forward.

Respectfully Submitted.

Judy Braman

AGM  
NBSRT – Saint John Branch  
MEMBERSHIP REPORT  
MAY 20, 2021

- A. Retired teachers, Saint John Branch, who have passed away since Sept. 1, 2020 (NOTE: only those who are NBSRT members are listed)

Sept. 18, 2020	Elizabeth Betts
Sept. 22, 2020	Ken Gould
Sept. 23, 2020	Elizabeth Grimmer
Sept. 30, 2020	Karen Keating
Oct. 14, 2020	William Joyce
Nov. 7, 2020	Barbara-Claire Evans
Feb. 14, 2021	Doris Martin

This same time frame last year had 20 on this list.

- B. Comparison of enrollment:
- Enrollment Sept. 30, 2012 was 535
  
  - Enrollment Oct. 16, 2019 was 604
  
  - Enrollment May 20, 2021 is 567

## Publicity Report – May 2021

Four newsletters have been published during the period from October 2020 to May 2021.

An additional newsletter will be sent out to the membership in June 2021.

One special letter was released to all current teachers in our district and surrounding anglophone districts from Sussex to Saint Stephen.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Ann Patterson

## **Scholarship Committee Report AGM 2021**

The NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund awarded two scholarships to students who are attending UNBSJ. Both are graduates of SMMHS. The 2020-2021 NBSRT SJ Education Scholarship recipient is Brady Rimes, a second year student in the concurrent B.A/B.Ed. program. David Irish received our scholarship given to a first year student. He is enrolled in the 1<sup>st</sup> year Bachelor of Health Program. Their photos and letters are posted on the Saint John branch website. Each student received \$2,000.

For the reporting period May 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020 our NBSRT Saint John Scholarship Fund received \$ 539.54 in gifts. The ending balance as of April 30, 2020 was \$129, 529.64.

When you make a donation to the scholarship fund you will receive an official tax receipt for your contribution. Please make your cheque payable to the University of New Brunswick. Mailing address: University of New Brunswick, Development Office, NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3. Donations also can be made online at the UNB website.

NBSRT Saint John Branch Scholarship Fund memorial cards are available at local funeral homes and at the fall and spring luncheons. Cards to mark special occasions are also available.

Netta Chase

### **School Days Museum**

AGM NBSRT-SJ. May 20, 2021

The NBSRT School Days Museum like the rest of the province is closed due to Covid and we have not met in quite some time.

The Museum will be closed again this summer but..... They have set up a virtual tour.

Members can take the tour by following this link. [museum.nbta.ca](https://museum.nbta.ca)

Dianne Stackhouse

Melody Hamm



## NBSRTSJ

### TELEPHONE COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 2021

Although not called upon in the last year, the 10 members of the Telephone Committee have been ready to make calls when needed. They provide a vital communication link between the Executive and the membership.

Calls would be made for such matters as a previously unannounced workshops, information sessions on pension or group insurance, and/or items of significant interest deemed as important to all members by the Executive Committee.

Each member receives a list of 10 to 12 retired colleagues who do not have or who do not wish to receive information by email. The lists are based on information provided by the Membership Secretary and updated when new lists are provided/requested.

A transition process will be offered to acquaint the incoming chair with past practices and information, including the names of current members willing to continue serving, for consideration.

Those contacted to serve on this committee agreed to do so without hesitation. Their willingness to support NBSRTSJ and their colleagues is appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted  
Margaret Urquhart

### WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT 2021

Our website <https://nbsrtsj.nbta.ca> has gone through a bit of a COVID transition this year.

We haven't met as a committee but we continue to update our website with the latest executive minutes, screen shots of our monthly executive meetings, newsletters, contests and winners.

Submitted by Ellen Palmer

## **Saint John AGM May 2021 Wellness Committee Report**

Sadly, due to the Covid-19 pandemic we did not reschedule our field trips we had planned. We did reschedule the two Nutrition Sessions lead by Jennifer Myles-Ingersoll, the Registered Dietitian from Sobeys via Zoom. The sessions were on June 30 and July 14 both at 11 am.

The New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers in Saint John (NBSRT SJ) met monthly via Zoom. Our two main goals this year are membership and wellness.

The Wellness Committee created an October calendar with a variety of activities to try during these trying times to help maintain a healthy mind set. What is unique to this Calendar of Events are the many links retirees can click on, if they want to learn more about the topic highlighted. A total of nine months were created; October 2020 to June 2021. The Calendar of Events have been published on our website and in our Newsletter. This endeavour has been received with positive comments.

Our group decided to celebrate the Christmas holidays and year end with a Virtual Wine and Cheese Party. Ten \$25 gift certificates were randomly drawn through out the night while the merry little elves had a Sing-A-Long! There was also a sharing of Cheese recipes and a \$50 gift card was randomly drawn for those who shared their recipe. The evening ended with a final \$100 gift card draw just before the customary toast! Fun was had by all!

In the new year, we lost a valuable Committee Chair, Nancy Steele. I do miss her because I am unfamiliar with the organization and how it runs. Nancy reassured if I can not reach Judy Braman, she is just a call away. I then recruited Patricia Bastarache to help me. She accepted but wants nothing to do with Zoom. She will help out with outdoor activities.

I decided to buckle down and get the membership more involved in the newsletter and viewing the new website. With Judy's help we did so by initiating the Saint Patrick's Day Recipe Draw and the Spring Photo Draw. Richard Thorne won the \$50 Recipe Draw and will soon find out the winners of the six \$25 gift certificates at the end of the month. We are planning for a Summer Photo Draw and a Fall Recipe Draw.

Next, I applied for the Wellness Grant and received \$400. We are to send a summary of the events this fall and reapply for more funding to help with the Newsletter's rising costs.

Lastly, since the fall I have attended three Provincial Wellness Zoom meetings (October, January, and February) and in my opinion even though I did not mind the Zoom meetings the participation grew week with only four attendees beside Garth Wade who chaired. Fewer meetings would suffice. Perhaps once a year.

Respectfully,  
Rose-Marie Theriault



## SEMI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NBSRTSJ

The Semi Annual Meeting of the NBSRTSJ took place on October 17, 2019 at The Hope Centre with the President Judy Braman in the chair. Judy called the meeting to order and asked Nancy Steele to lead the group in the singing of O Canada. Pat Dugay was asked to say Grace.

Heather Toole introduced the Scholarship Winner Rachel Ingersoll an Education student at UNBSJ. Kiera Logan was unable to attend due to the fact she was writing a mid-term. Marion Williams from UNBSJ accompanied Rachel.

Kathy Wilson offered a memorial moment for deceased members.

The minutes from the May AGM were approved as circulated on a motion by Joan Pierce and seconded by Nancy Steele.

The reviewed Treasurer's Report presented by Barry Harbinson was accepted on a motion by Larry McPhee and Marg Urquhart.

The Director's report was included in the minutes as circulated on the tables.

Ellen Palmer gave a brief ten minute presentation on our web page and links to our provincial site.

The results of the Federal Election Survey as drawn up by ACER/CART were also circulated.

The Social Committee drew the 50/50 ticket as well as several door prizes.

Brian Greig thanked all of The Hope Centre Volunteers for the lovely roast beef dinner.

Nancy Steele took a minute to remind members of the Teachers' College class of 1970 of their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion taking place in the spring of 2020.

Heather Toole moved adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Pat Loughery

( Secretary )

